# Orders Development

## LtCol Nick Nanna

# Doctrinal Guidance

"…plans and orders exist for those who receive and execute them rather than those who write them."

"Directives should be as clear, simple and concise as each situation permits."
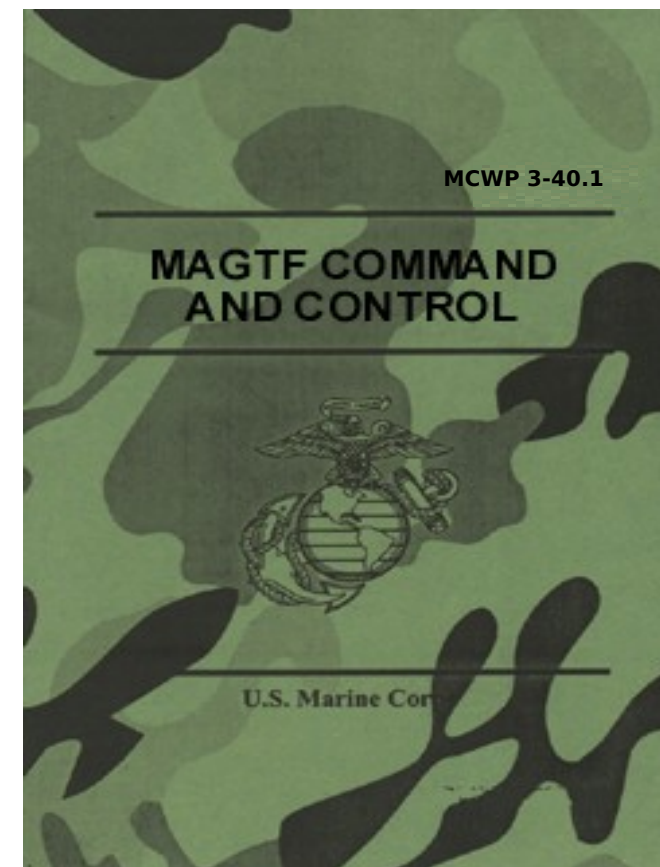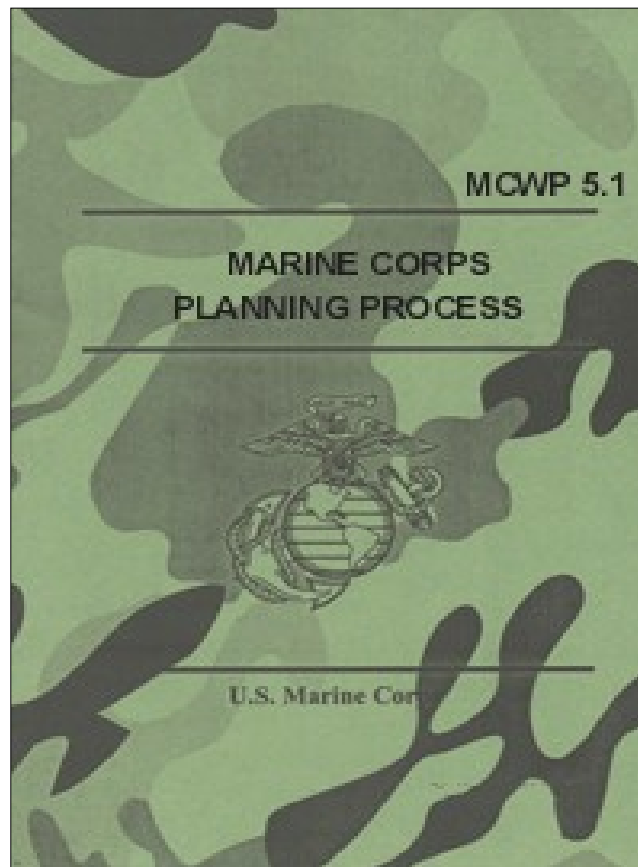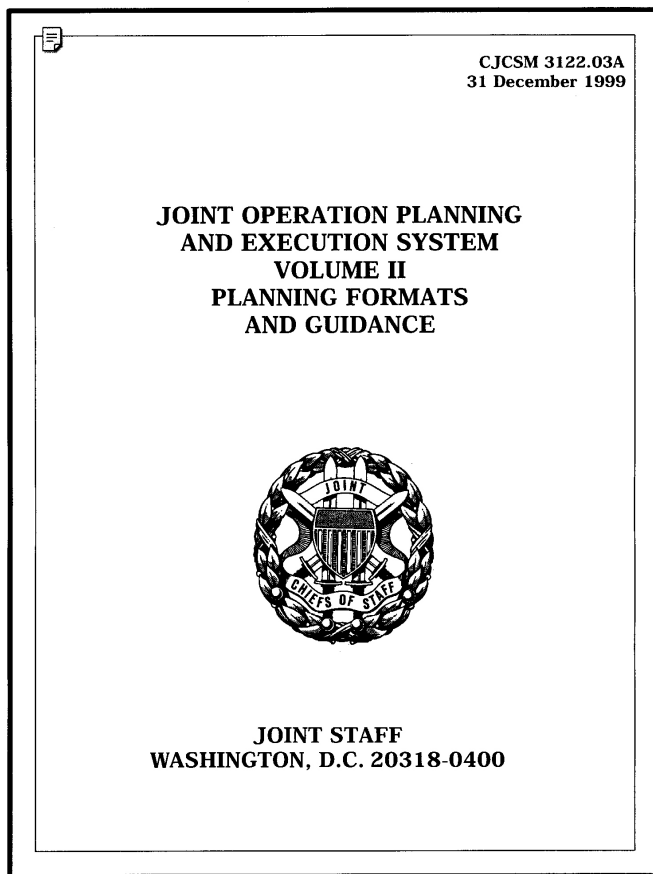
MCDP 5

# Purpose

- Review doctrine/format for orders development
- Identify planning products incorporated into the:
  - Basic Order
  - Annexes
  - Appendices
- Discuss responsibilities for orders development
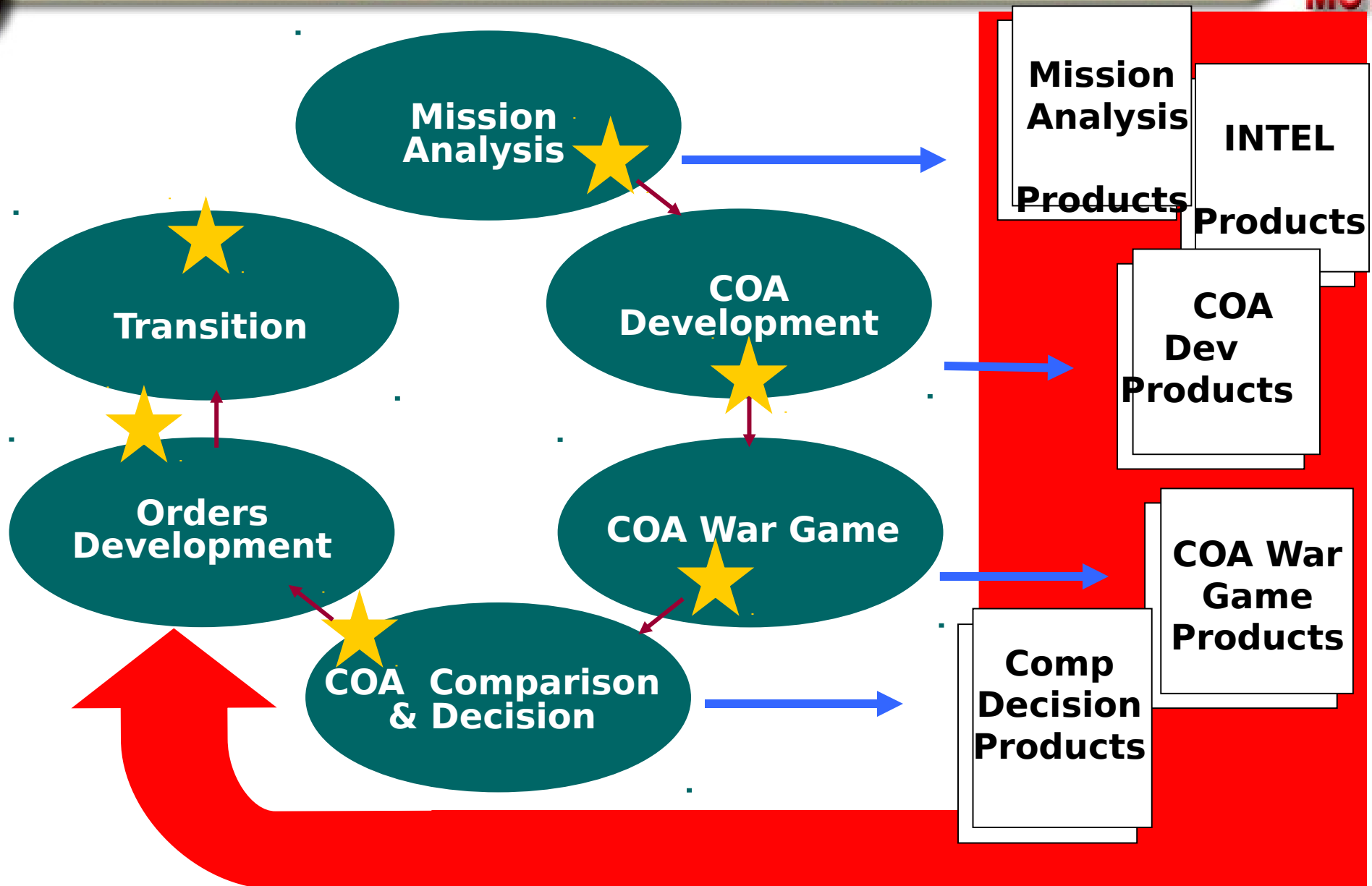- Provide MSTP observations

# References



**CJCSM 3122.03A**
**31 December 1999**

JOINT OPERATION PLANNING
AND EXECUTION SYSTEM
VOLUME II
PLANNING FORMATS
AND GUIDANCE

JOINT STAFF
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20318-0400

MCWP 5.1

MARINE CORPS
PLANNING PROCESS

U.S. Marine Corps

MCWP 3-40.1

MAGTF COMMAND
AND CONTROL

U.S. Marine Corps

# Marine Corps Planning Process

**MSTP**

**Mission Analysis** ⭐ →

**Mission Analysis Products**

**INTEL Products**

**Transition** ⭐

**COA Development** ⭐ →

**COA Dev Products**

**Orders Development** ⭐

**COA War Game** ⭐ →

**COA War Game Products**

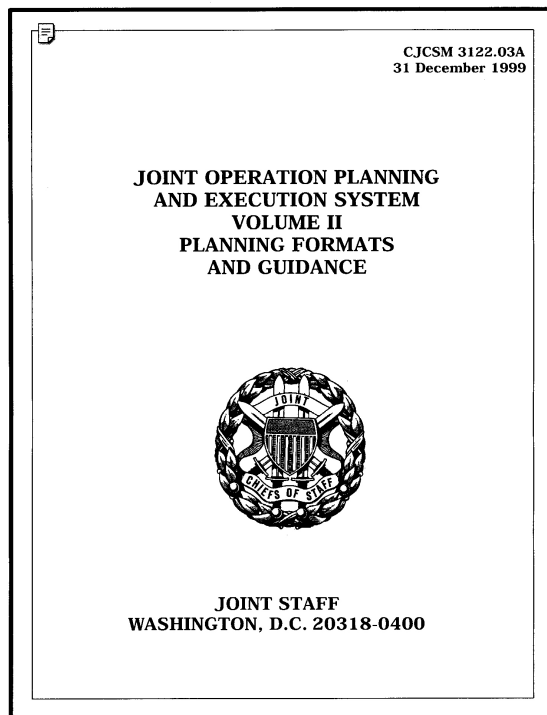**COA Comparison & Decision** ⭐ →

**Comp Decision Products**

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# Orders Format

- "Additional annexes may be added when necessary...when information must be included where no provision is made in standard annexes."
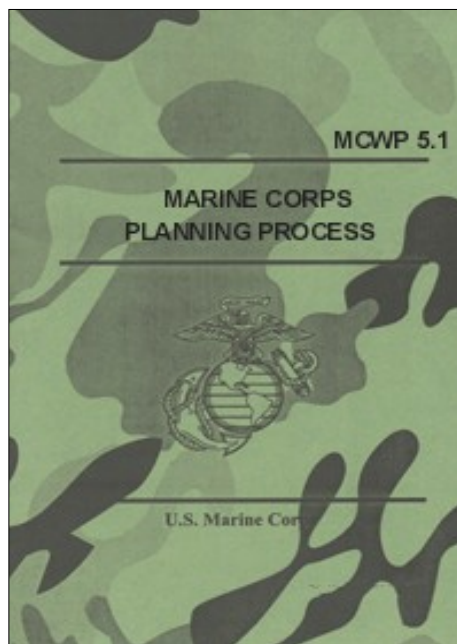
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CJCSM 3122.03A
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JOINT OPERATION PLANNING
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# Orders Format

**MCWP 5-1, *The Marine Corps Planning Process***

Contains an orders format close to JOPES Vol II but retains service unique features.

MCWP 5.1

MARINE CORPS
PLANNING PROCESS

U.S. Marine Cor

# Characteristics

- Five paragraphs
- Task organization and scheme of maneuver
- Clear, concise mission statement based on the mission assigned by the higher headquarters
- Execution time and date
- Commander's intent and concept of operations
- Usually includes an overlay

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# Principal Types Of Orders

- **Warning Order** (WARNO)--A preliminary notice of an order which is to follow.  (JP 1-02)

- **Operation Order** (OPORD)--A directive issued by a commander to subordinate commanders for the purpose of effecting the coordination of an operation.  (JP 1-02)

- **Fragmentary Order** (FRAGO)--An abbreviated form of an operation order, usually issued on a day-to-day basis, that eliminates the need for restating information contained in a basic operation order.  (JP 1-02)

# OPLAN vs. OPORD

OPLAN - An operation plan for the conduct of joint operations that can be used as a basis for development of an operation order (OPORD) JP 1-02
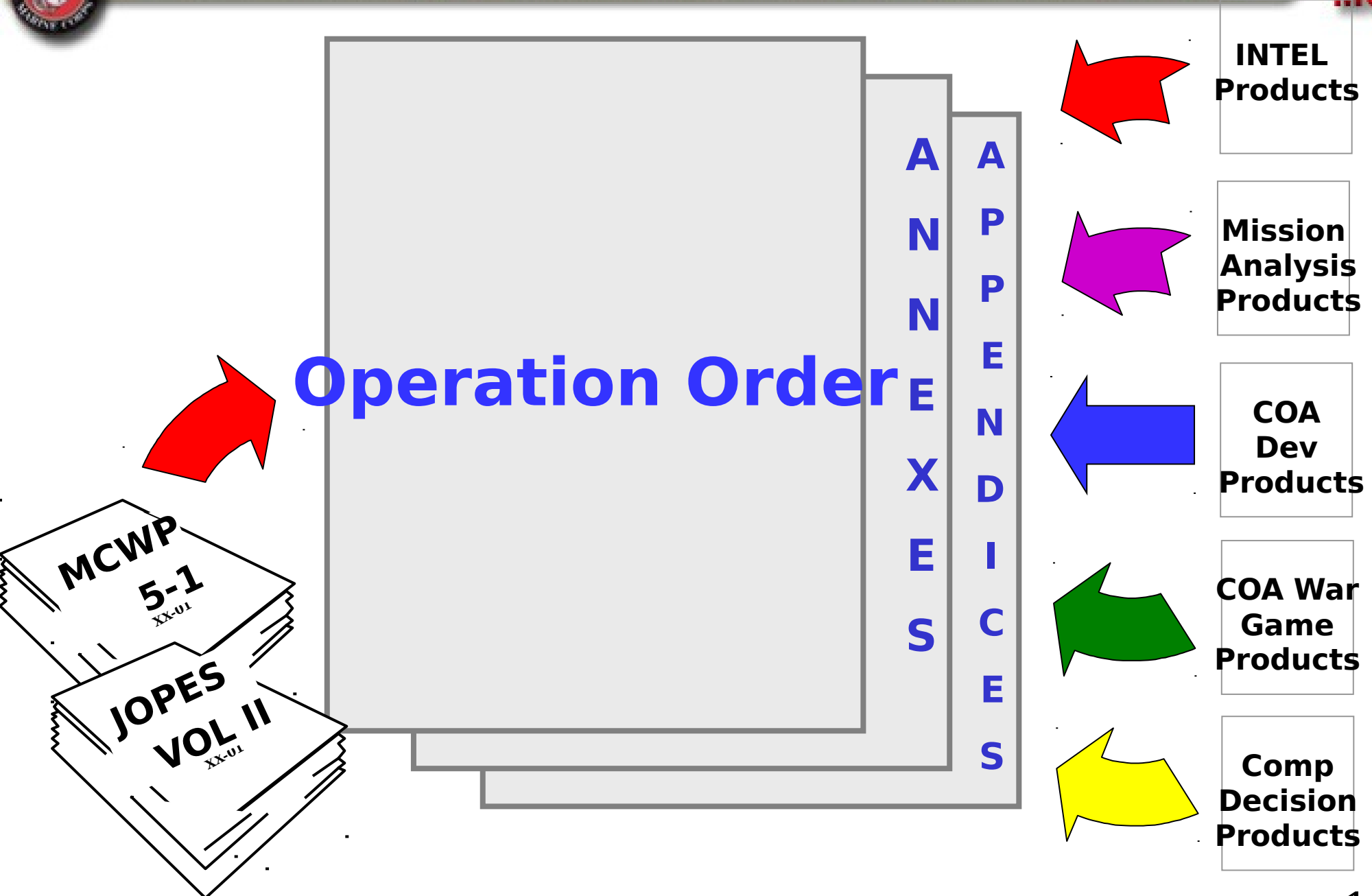
Same format as OPORD except:

- OPLAN will address politico-military environment in General Situation (para 1.a)
- OPLAN addresses assumptions (para 1.f)
- OPLAN becomes an OPORD when conditions of execution occur and an execution time is determined

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# Process

**Operation Order**

A N N E X E S

A P P E N D I C E S

INTEL Products

Mission Analysis Products

COA Dev Products

COA War Game Products

Comp Decision Products

MCWP 5-1 XX-U1

JOPES VOL II XX-U1

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# Process

**OP ORDER**

1. **SITUATION**

    a. **General**

    **(May be omitted)**

**Politico-Military Environment**

HHQ Orders

INTEL Products

Mission Analysis Products

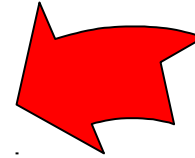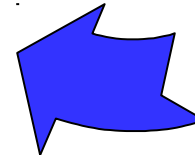COA Dev War Gm Products

Comp Decision Products

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# Process

**OP ORDER**

1. SITUATION

    a. General

    b. Battlespace

**AO**

**CBAE**

HHQ Orders

INTEL Products

Mission Analysis Products

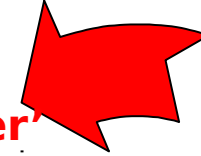COA Dev War Gm Products

Comp Decision Products

13

# Process

## OP ORDER

1. SITUATION

    a. General

    b. Battlespace

    c. Enemy Forces

**Enemy COGs**

**CV**

**Doct/Sit Templates**

**Enemy COGs/CVs**

**CBAE**

HHQ Orders

INTEL Products

Mission Analysis Products

COA Dev War Gm Products

Comp Decision Products

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# Process

**OP ORDER**

1. **SITUATION**

    a. **General**

    b. **Battlespace**

    c. **Enemy Forces**

    d. **Friendly Forces**

    e. **Att/Detachments**

    f. **Legal Considerations**

**Mission**

**Commander's Intent**

**Coordinating Instructions**

**T/O**

**Friendly COG/CV**

**Constraints**
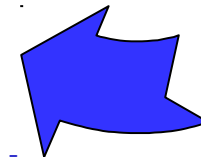
**Restraints**

**HHQ Orders**

**INTEL Products**

**Mission Analysis Products**

**COA Dev War Gm Products**

**Comp Decision Products**

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# Process

**OP ORDER**

2. MISSION
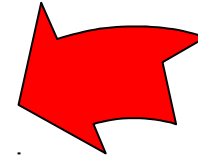
**HHQ Mission** ← **HHQ Orders**

**INTEL Products**

**Refined Mission Statement** ← **Mission Analysis Products**
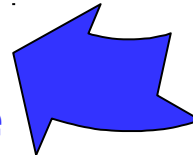
**COA Dev War Gm Products**
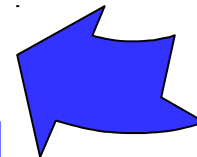
**Comp Decision Products**

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# Process

**OP ORDER**

2.  MISSION

3.  EXECUTION

    a.  Commander's Intent

**CBAE**

**Refined Commander's Intent**

HHQ Orders

INTEL Products

Mission Analysis Products

COA Dev War Gm Products

Comp Decision Products

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# Process

## OP ORDER

2.  MISSION

3.  EXECUTION

    a.  Commander's Intent

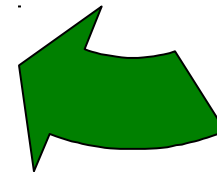    b.  Concept of Ops

    **(Single Battle Concept)**

HHQ Orders

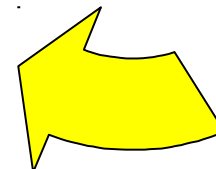INTEL Products

Mission Analysis Products

**COA Narrative & Graphic**

COA Dev Products

Sync Matrix

COA War Gm Products

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# Process

**OP ORDER**

2. MISSION

3. EXECUTION

    a. Commander's Intent

    b. Concept of Ops

    c. Tasks

HHQ Orders

INTEL Products

**Specified Tasks**

**Implied Tasks**
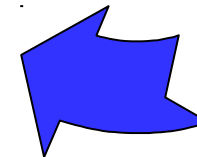
Mission Analysis Products

COA Dev Products

**Sync Matrix**

**DST/DSM**

COA War Gm Products

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# Process

**OP ORDER**

2. MISSION

3. EXECUTION

    a. Commander's Intent

    b. Concept of Ops

    c. Tasks

    d. Reserve

    e. CCIRs

    f. Coord Instructions

**Coord Instructions**

**CBAE**

**Specified Tasks**

**Implied Tasks**

**Constraints**

**Restraints**

**Sync Matrix**

**Refined CCIRs**

HHQ Orders

INTEL Products

Mission Analysis Products
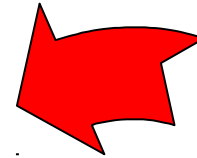
COA Dev Products

COA War Gm Products

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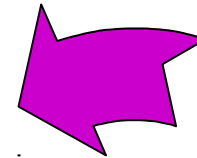
# Process

**OP ORDER**

4. ADMIN/LOG

5. COMMAND & SIGNAL

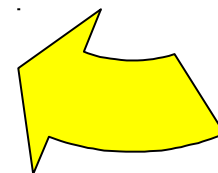**HHQ Location** ⬅

**HHQ Orders**

**Staff Estimates** ⬅

**Staff Est**

**Mission Analysis Products**

**COA Dev Products**

**Sync Matrix** ⬅

**COA War Gm Products**

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# Process

**OP ORDER**

4. ADMIN/LOG

5. COMMAND & SIGNAL

ACKNOWLEDGE

RECEIPT

ANNEXES

APPENDICES

**Annexes**

**Appendices**

**Staff Estimates**

**Sync Matrix**

**COA Sketch**

HHQ Orders

Staff Est

Mission Analysis Products

COA Dev Products

COA War Gm Products

# Process

**HHQ Orders**

## OP ORDER

4. ADMIN/LOG

5. COMMAND & SIGNAL

**Orders Reconciliation**

**Staff Est**

ACKNOWLEDGE RECEIPT

*I. M. Incharge*

LTGEN

**Orders Crosswalk**

**Mission Analysis Products**

ANNEXES

APPENDICES

**COA Dev Products**
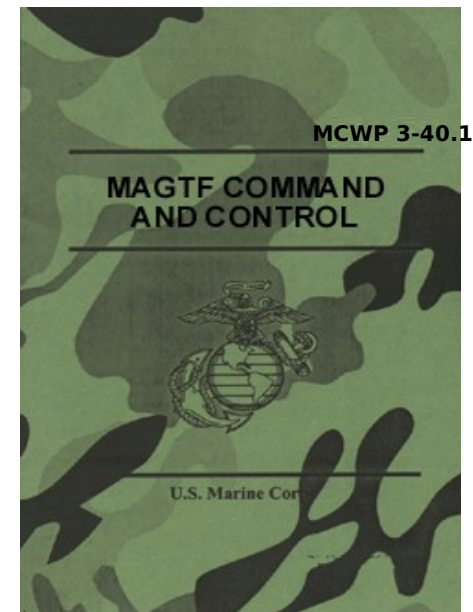
**COA War Gm Products**

**Commander's Approval**

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# Process

Chief of Staff (or XO) guidance:

- – type of order or plan with annexes/appendices
- – responsibilities
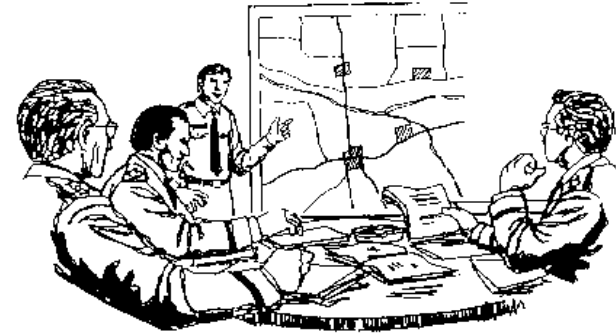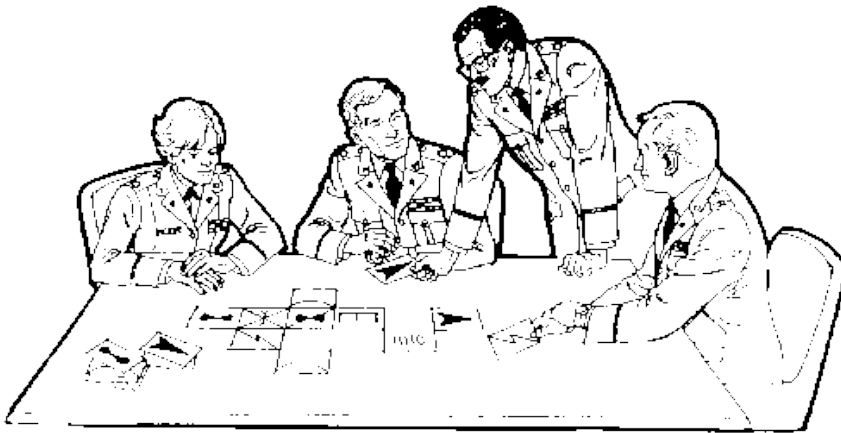- – deadlines/coordination

MCWP 3-40.1

MAGTF COMMAND AND CONTROL

U.S. Marine Cor

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# Who Is Responsible For The Order?

The OPT?



Staff Principals?


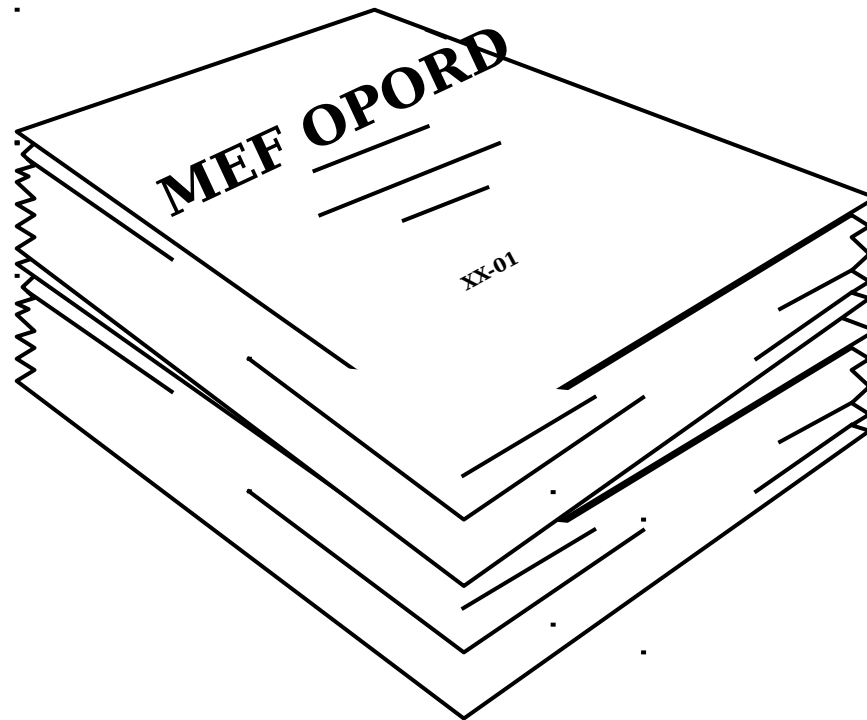
# Staff Principals!

# Who Is Responsible For The Order?

- **The Staff Principals**
  - The order benefits from Staff expertise
  - OPT/Staff Principals/MSC interaction
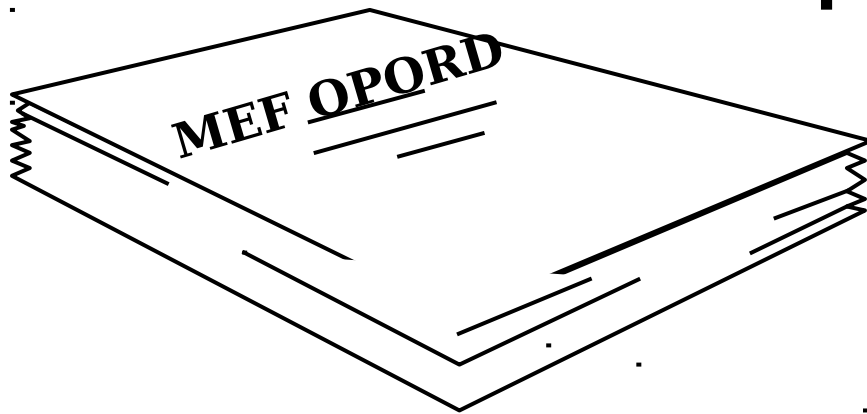  - Draws on OPT situational awareness

# How Big Is Too Big?

MEF OPORD

XX-01

# How Big Is Big Enough?

MEF OPORD

+

TAC SOP

XX-01

# How Big Is Big Enough?

- "As a rule, plans should contain only as much detail as required to provide subordinates the necessary guidance while allowing as much freedom of action as possible"

MCDP 5

# Observations

- CONOPS ignores the  MEF Single Battle
- Issuing FRAGOs without a base OPORD
- Too verbose
- Too prescriptive
- Improper terminology
- Tasks without "in order to" statements
- Violations of subordinates planning time
- Briefs vice orders
- Numerous working copies
- "It's on our homepage"
- Confusing the "send" button with "acknowledge receipt"

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# Summary

- Reviewed doctrine/format for orders development

- Identified planning products incorporated into the:
  - Basic Order
  - Annexes
  - Appendices

- Discussed responsibilities for orders development

- Provided MSTP observations